



OFFICE OF RACIAL EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Tiffany Ward
Director and Chief Equity Officer

MEMORANDUM

April 14, 2023

To: Jennifer Bryant, Director
Office of Management and Budget

From: Tiffany Ward, Director
Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice 

Re: Racial Equity Impact Assessment (REIA) Supplemental Appropriation (SA) #23-97
COVID-19 FEMA Public Assistance Contract Support

- I. **FINDING:** The Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (ORESJ) finds that it cannot be determined, based on available information, the extent to which Supplemental Appropriation #23-97 COVID-19 FEMA Public Assistance Contract Support (\$465,000). There is insufficient detail from which to conduct a racial equity analysis or draw conclusions about potential racial equity impacts.
- II. **BACKGROUND:** The purpose of Supplemental Appropriation #23-97 COVID-19 FEMA Public Assistance Contract Support (\$465,000) is to fund additional contractors to cover the unbudgeted amount in FEMA contracting cost as well assist in the review and reimbursement submission for \$70 million in eligible Covid-19 expenses. According to available information staff, along with contract support, are reviewing the final \$70 million and will submit eligible costs. This supplemental funding request will provide the additional contractor support needed to ensure eligible costs are submitted on time. This funding will augment contractor support through June 30, 2023.

At the time of ORESJ's assessment, several details pertinent to a racial equity analysis were not available. First, while it is presumed (based on ORESJ's analysis of previous supplemental appropriations related to pandemic response) that many of these costs helped to prevent racial disparities in housing, healthcare, and employment from growing, it's unclear which specific expenses and programs are included in this reimbursement effort. In addition, details pertaining to the contractor, the procurement competition process, and other aspects of process-related equity were not available.

Racial Equity Impact Assessment (REIA) Supplemental Appropriation (SA) #23-97 COVID-19
FEMA Public Assistance Contract Support

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Therefore, ORESJ is unable to draw a conclusion about the extent to which this supplemental appropriation advances racial equity and social justice in the County.

cc: Dr. James Bridgers, Acting Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Ken Hartman, Director, Strategic Partnerships, Office of the County Executive